(XXXIV-th YEAR.) THE 341

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1779.

THE printers hereof take leave to inform the public, that this Gazette, No. 1686, begins the year with all subscribers to it; and as their intention of continuing the regular weekly publication thereof may not be generally known, they have thought proper to send this number to a great number of their old customers, as well as all such new subscribers whose names have already come to hand, requesting those of the former, desirous of having them continued, to transmit their names as early as possible, and those gentlemen who have been obliging enough to promote a subscription to their paper to send up a list of the names of those who may have subscribed, by the first opportunity.

The printers will be particularly thankful for all pieces of intelligence, and all pieces tending to the instruction, entertainment, or information of the reader, provided decency in language be observed. Advertisements are gratefully received, and those of a moderate length inserted the first week for six dollars, and one dollar for each continuance; long ones in proportion. The money must always accompany each advertisement. Subscriptions are taken in at the printing-office in Charles-street, and at all places where the Maryland Gazette was formerly lodged, for the sum of fifty-two shillings per annum.

By the HOUSE of DELEGATES, March 22, 1779.

RESOLVED, That the bill, entitled, An act for the relief of certain nonjurors, on the terms therein mentioned, be now read a second time, for filling up the blanks therein, and that thereafter, the same be referred to the consideration of the next session of assembly; and that thirty copies thereof be printed and sent to each of the counties of this state, for the perusal and consideration of the inhabitants.

BILL, entitled, An act for the relief of certain nonjurors, on the terms therein mentioned.

WHEREAS many of the inhabitants of this state have neglected or refused to take the oath or affirmation of fidelity and support to this state, as directed and required by the act, entitled, An act for the better security of the government, whereby such delinquents are subject to great penalties, forfeitures, and disabilities: And whereas it is the true interest and policy of this state to unite the inhabitants thereof in a common bond of friendship, and as much as may be, prevent the distress and oppression of any, especially the innocent and unoffending:

Be it therefore enacted, That the governor and council be authorised and empowered to appoint, and by their commission to give to the most respectable discreet persons, of known attachment to the cause of America, commissioners in each county, and that any, or the major part of them, be authorised and required to administer the oath or affirmation of fidelity and support to this state, to all such inhabitants of their respective counties, who may not have taken the oath or affirmation within the time prescribed by the act for the better security of the government, and who shall apply to take the same, on or before the first day of June next, except always such persons whom the commissioners shall have just grounds to believe are inimical to the freedom and independence of America, or have taken an active part in opposition to those principles in the present contest.

And be it enacted, That the said commissioners, or any two of them, shall have power and authority to appoint a fit and proper person for their clerk, and the said commissioners and their clerk shall be severally allowed at the rate of three pounds per day for every day they attend as aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That the commissioners of the several counties of this state appointed as aforesaid shall, and they are hereby directed and required, to keep two paper books, one for all persons who shall take the oath aforesaid, and the other for all persons who shall make the affirmation aforesaid; and that every person who shall, on or before the aforesaid first day of June next, take the said oath, shall, after taking the same, subscribe his name thereto in the book aforesaid, containing the said oath; and that every person who shall, on or before the said first day of June next, make the said affirmation, shall, after making the same, subscribe his name thereto, in the book aforesaid, containing the said affirmation; and if the person shall be aforesaid taking the said oath or making the said affirmation, shall not be able to write his name, he shall make his mark, and the commissioners shall cause to be written thereto the name of such person so taking the oath or making the affirmation as aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That the commissioners aforesaid shall make out a fair copy of their said books, with all convenient dispatch, after the aforesaid first day of June next, and the same transmit to the governor and council, who shall deliver the said original books to the clerks of the county courts on or before the twentieth day of November next, there to be kept as records, under the penalty of five hundred pounds on their neglecting the said duty aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That each and every person, except as above excepted, who shall take, repeat, and subscribe, the oath or affirmation aforesaid, on or before the aforesaid first day of June next, in manner and form as herein before directed, shall be freed, acquitted, and discharged, from paying a tax or taxes treble the tax or taxes already imposed or hereafter to be imposed by public or county assessments for the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, or for any future time, and also from all taxes, pains, penalties, forfeitures, and disabilities, imposed by the aforesaid act for the better security of the government on persons required by that act to take the oath or affirmation aforesaid, and whose name or mark did not appear on the magistrates books in manner and form as by that act is directed and prescribed, except the disability to hold or exercise within this state any office of profit or trust civil or military, and except also the disability to vote at any election for members of the house of delegates, or sheriffs, or at any election for electors of senators; which said disabilities are hereby declared to be, remain, and continue, to every intent and purpose, as under the act aforesaid for the better security of the government.

And be it enacted, That the said commissioners shall, and they are hereby directed and required, under the penalty of two hundred pounds, to attend one day in every week, or oftener if they think necessary, until the aforesaid first day of June next, at the place of holding their county courts, or other convenient place, by them to be appointed, in their respective counties, with the books aforesaid, for the purpose aforesaid, and the commissioners aforesaid shall, under the penalty aforesaid, give public notice, by advertisement, of such days and places of their meeting, for the purpose aforesaid.

And be it enacted, That the clerk of the county court of each county shall, and he is hereby directed and required, under the penalty of two hundred pounds, to make out and transmit to the sheriff or collector, on or before the tenth day of July next, a fair copy of the names of all such persons who may have taken, repeated, and subscribed, the oath or affirmation aforesaid, in manner and form aforesaid.

And be it further enacted, That all costs and charges incident to and arising on the execution of the commission by this act ordered, shall be defrayed and paid by such persons as shall come in and take the said oath by this act directed, in proportion and according to their respective assessments, and the costs and charges so arising shall be levied, collected, and paid, in the same manner as the county assessments are levied, collected, and paid.

LONDON, *December* 1.

NOTWITHSTANDING the French have suffered much in their trade since the commencement of hostilities, people should consider that this loss must not be estimated by what we should feel ourselves in equal circumstances as a commercial people; France is a country near four times as populous as England, not depending principally on its commerce, and abounding with infinite pecuniary resources; so that though she may be cramped in one line, she can extend herself in twenty others.

Dec. 4 Yesterday the messenger who went with the last dispatches from government to the court of Madrid returned, with an express to the Spanish ambassador, which express it is expected will be laid before the privy council.

A letter received on Friday by a person in Liverpool from Lisbon dated Nov. 7, says, "Lord Grantham, at Madrid, has officially intimated to the different English consuls in Spain, to forewarn the merchants to be upon their guard, lest affairs should take an unexpected turn."

Yesterday a late commissioner to the American congress was near four hours in conference with some persons in high offices.

It is said to be determined on to send a fleet into the Mediterranean; in consequence of which some think the Spaniards will declare for the French, as the former court has strongly opposed the measure of a British squadron, more than a limitted number, from going into the Mediterranean.

We are informed, that the following regiments are to embark in February for America, viz. 1st and 2d battalion of royals, 3d, 11th, 13th, 29th, 25th, 30th, 32d, 38th, and 69th, in all eleven battalions.

Dec. 7. The German troops to go to America are to embark at Embden, leave having been obtained from the king of Prussia for that purpose.

The 11th, 66th, and 67th regiments, now in Ireland, are ordered to be in readiness to embark in the spring for America.

Ten thousand men are to go to America in the spring, half to be foreigners, and the remainder English.

Dec. 13. The treatment that admiral Keppel has met with from the present ministry, and their associates, is more than sufficient to deter every officer of character from taking any important command, while they are in office. Lord Howe, gen. Howe, gen. Clinton, gen. Carleton, gen. Burgoyne, gen. Gage, adm. Graves, &c. &c. have all in their turns been vilified and traduced by the hired writers, and other creatures of the present ministry. Because the public did not resent that base treatment of those gallant officers, the ministers have taken courage, and ventured to proceed a step further; and now, at the instance of *two villain creatures*, they have dared to order a trial of adm. Keppel. But there is one truth, which every body knows, and which every body understands, viz. THAT ADMIRAL KEPPEL IS HONEST, *and Sir Hugh Pallisser is not on the Island.* It is equally true, that Sir Hugh Pallisser is the *favourite* of lord Sandwich, and that adm. Keppel is only an honest man; that Sir Hugh Pallisser is one of the lords of the admiralty, and that the admiralty are to name the officers who are to compose the court-martial.

MADRID, *Sept.* 20. Lord Grantham, the English ambassador, is dangerously ill, which throws great delay in the important negociations now on the tapis between our court and the court of London. We daily expect a courier from London, dispatched by count Almadovar, who will bring the last determination and positive answer from the British court to our propositions, which answer will decide the fate of both nations as to peace or war.

PARIS, *Nov.* 23. The squadron of six ships of war, under whose escort two ships are to sail from L'Orient, are not yet ready for sea. They are to be victualled for six months, and it is given out that 4000 regular troops are to be sent with them. The general opinion is, that they are destined for the coast of Coromandel.

CHARLESTOWN, *March* 10.

Last Saturday returned hither the detachment of Charlestown artillery and militia, which, with a part of Col. Skirving's regiment, beat the British light infantry on the 4th of last month on Port-Royal Island. Our loss on that occasion was eight killed and twenty-five wounded, most of the latter very slightly.

The loss of the enemy is not yet certainly known; but they left dead on the field, Lieut. Finlay (who acted as adjutant on that day) and Lieut. Calderwood (or Catherwood) and six privates, and Lieut. Hazleton, wounded and taken prisoner, who has since been cured and exchanged. The rest of their wounded they carried off; but Capt. Barnwell took some prisoners, among them Capt. Bruere, a son to the governor of Bermuda (who afterwards got away) and the sergeant of the *active and good marksmen*, ordered by Major Gardiner (who commanded the whole British detachment employed on that expedition) to be placed with each division, so as to pick off our officers, and by whom indeed our chief loss was sustained. By information from prisoners and deserters, Major Gardiner, Major Graham, Capt. Murray and Capt. Bruere, were dangerously wounded; and all of them, except Major Graham, are said to be since dead. The finding of Major Gardiner's *orderly book*, in the pocket of Adjutant Finlay, wherein the sanguinary orders for the *picked marksmen* were found, together with a recommendation to use *the bayonet*, in preference to powder and ball, enforced with these words, "*Their brothers* (the British barbarians) *to the northward seldom or never use powder and ball, till they have put the rebels to flight; and major Gardiner and their officers hope to see them follow their glorious example*;" has had this good effect, that it has produced a volunteer company of as *sure marksmen* as are perhaps on the continent, who by this time have reached the camp.

Our coast still swarms with privateers of the enemy; almost every day some of their brigs, small schooners and sloops come in sight, and sometimes two twenty-gun ships, the Daphne and the Unicorn; but we do not hear they have taken any thing since the renewal of the embargo. The Hornet and Monmouth brigs and Rattlesnake schooner, have been upon a cruize, but whenever they fall in with privateers, they have immediately led towards the men of war, who, with two brigs and two schooners, chased our vessels in on Monday.

Last Sunday se'nnight, another lieutenant and seven seamen, belonging to a privateer from St. Augustine, were made prisoners at the entrance of George-Town harbour, attempting to cut out some vessels there.

It appears by several publications in the London, West-India, and other Royal Papers, so early as the beginning of November last, and from many other circumstances, that the invasion of these southern states has been long projected; that the enemy have, for more than three years past, had a number of properly qualified agents in the remote, and some of the interior, parts of all these states, artfully tampering with the weaker unformed inhabitants, daily enlisting them into the British service, and then swearing them to secrecy; and that, on the success of these men, Sir Henry Clinton has built his pretence of having been solicited to send a fleet and army this way, for the relief and protection of his Majesty's subjects, (such as Kirkland, &c.) who in the said papers are pretended to have revolted, and petitioned. It is highly proper to call the attention of the public to the little insidious artifices of his Britannic Majesty's commanders, and to guard the weaker of the community against the certain consequence of their suffering themselves to be any longer deluded. It is a well known fact, that the British generals have introduced themselves into every state on the continent, where they have taken up their temporary residence, with the same pretences they have entered Georgia. But mark the event; though frequently supported by too many deluded people, yet they have, in a short time, been compelled to quit the countries to which they say they were invited, and to leave to the mercy of the injured Americans, their most *loyal* friends. Can this *pretence* deceive any longer? Will any set of men still expose themselves to the infamy of betraying their country, and the misfortune of being themselves betrayed in turn?

By intelligence last week from the southward, we learn, that General Ashe, having taken post in the state of Georgia, he was attacked last Wednesday afternoon, by Col. Campbell, with so superior a number of men (at least double) that General Ashe was obliged to cross the river; the gallant Col. Elbert covered his retreat with his own brigade, many of whom have been killed or taken. Our loss is supposed to be about a hundred; that of the enemy is not yet known.